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FRIDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 1999 No. 1999/178

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Friday, 17 September 1999

SECURITY COUNCIL

10 a.m. 4046th (resumed) meeting Security Council Chamber

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Protection of civilians in armed conflict

   Report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict (S/1999/957)

MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE

11 a.m. 1413th meeting (closed) Conference Room 9

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-fourth session

11 a.m. 3rd PLENARY MEETING Conference Room 3

Organization of work of the fifty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: first report of the General Committee (A/54/250)

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FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION OF
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The provisional list of speakers (No. 4) for the general debate of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly (20-25 September and 29 September-2 October 1999) is now available in room S-2925 (General Assembly and ECOSOC Affairs Division). The provisional list of speakers (No. 4) has also been sent by facsimile directly to the permanent missions (office of the Permanent Representative). The list of speakers is also available on the Internet at the following address: www. un.org/ga/54/list54.htm. Any queries concerning the list of speakers should be addressed to the Division (Mrs. Nicolle Matias-Veyne (tel.: (212) 963-5063)).

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TWENTY-SECOND SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ON THE REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION FOR THE SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES
(*27 and 28 September 1999*)

The provisional list of speakers (No.2) in the debate on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States is now available at the General Assembly Servicing Branch (rooms S-2925 and S-3001G). The provisional list of speakers (No.2) has also been sent by facsimile directly to the permanent missions (office of the Permanent Representative).

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

Meeting of the Extended Bureau

12 noon-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 9

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund

Third regular session 1999

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	38th meeting	Conference Room 1
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	39th meeting	Conference Room 1

1. UNDP: Special funds and programmes: United nations Capital Development Fund [4] (DP/1999/37)

2. UNFPA: Country programmes and related matters [8] (DP/FPA/AZE/1, DP/FPA/KAZ/1, DP/FPA/KGZ/1, DP/FPA/PAK/6, DP/FPA/PHL/5, DP/FPA/TJK/1, DP/FPA/TKM/1, DP/FPA/UZB/1, DP/FPA/HTI/2/EXT.1)

3. UNDP: Country cooperation frameworks and related matters [3] (DP/1999/36, DP/CCF/CAF/1 and Corr.1, DP/CCF/ANT/1, DP/CCF/ECU/1, DP/CCF/HAI/1 and Corr.1, DP/CCF/ERI/1/EXT.1)

4. UNDP: Financial, budgetary and administrative matters: Report on the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration [2] (DP/1999/42)

5. Other matters: Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS [9]

6. Pending decisions

7. Organizational matters [1] (DP/1999/CRP.11, DP/1999/13)

[There will be a meeting of the donors group *today* at 9 a.m. in Conference Room E.]

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

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Friday, 17 September 1999

ARAB GROUP
(at the ambassadorial level)

10.30 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 8

GROUP OF 77 OF THE SECOND, THIRD AND FIFTH COMMITTEES
(on the drafting of the ministerial declaration)

11 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 7
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 7

AFRICAN GROUP: GROUP OF EXPERTS ON ECONOMIC MATTERS

3 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 8

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United Nations Institute for Training and Research

SPECIAL BRIEFING ON THE WORK OF THE SECOND COMMITTEE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Trusteeship Council Chamber
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Trusteeship Council Chamber

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Annual conference

The Fifty-second Annual DPI/NGO Conference entitled "Challenges of a Globalized World: Finding New Directions", will continue *today*, 17 September 1999, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. in Conference Room 4.

NGO Workshops, organized by the NGO/DPI Planning Committee, will take place from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. daily in various conference rooms and in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library Auditorium. Copies of the Conference programme are available on the Internet at the following address: www.un.org/MoreInfo/ngolink/52conf.htm. For further information, please call (212) 963-1361, 963-7709, 963-1285 or 963-7234.

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Special briefing

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs will hold a briefing on "Financial Development in the Globalizing World", the thematic part of *World Economic and Social Survey 1999*, *today*, 17 September 1999, at 3 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber. Mr. Nitin Desai, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, will chair the briefing. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the media are invited to attend.

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Announcement

As from Thursday, 2 September 1999, and for the rest of the month, the Presidency of the Security Council conduct informal briefings on the current work of the Council for Member States of the United Nations which are non-members of the Council daily, except on days on which no informal consultations are scheduled. The briefings will take place immediately following the adjournment of the informal consultations, in the Press Briefing Room (S-226).

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Announcement

Recorded information about previously unscheduled meetings and consultations of the whole of the Security Council may be obtained by calling (212) 963-8530.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Monday, 20 September 1999

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-fourth session

10 a.m. 4th PLENARY MEETING General Assembly Hall

1. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization: presentation by the Secretary-General of his annual report on the work of the organization (A/54/1) [10]

2. Opening of the general debate [9]:

Address by His Excellency Mr. Luiz Felipe LAMPREIA, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Brazil

Address by His Excellency Mr. Thabo MBEKI, President of the Republic of South Africa

Address by His Excellency Mr. Abdelaziz BOUTEFLIKA, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria

Address by His Excellency Mr. Sam NUJOMA, President of the Republic of Namibia

Address by His Excellency Mr. Eduard SHEVARDNADZE, President of Georgia

Address by His Excellency Mr. Lionel JOSPIN, Prime Minister of the French Republic

Address by His Excellency Abdel-Elah Mohammad KHATIB, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Jordan

3 p.m. 5th PLENARY MEETING General Assembly Hall

Continuation of the general debate [9]:

Address by His Excellency Mr. Francisco Guillermo FLORES PÉREZ, President of the Republic of El Salvador

Address by His Excellency Mr. Benjamin William MKAPA, President of the United Republic of Tanzania

Address by His Excellency Mr. Arnoldo ALEMÁN LACAYO, President of the Republic of Nicaragua

Address by His Excellency Mr. Andrés PASTRANA ARANGO, President of the Republic of Colombia

Address by His Excellency Mr. Jorge Fernando Branco de SAMPAIO, President of the Portuguese Republic

Address Her Excellency Sheikh HASINA, Prime Minister of the Republic of Bangladesh

Address by His Excellency Mr. Kjell Magne BONDEVIK, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Norway

Address by His Excellency Mr. Samdech HUN SEN, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia

Address by His Excellency Mr. Marc FORNÉ MOLNÉ, Head of Government of the Principality of Andorra

Address by His Excellency The Honorable Mahendra Pal CHAUDHRY, Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji

Address by His Excellency Mr. Amara ESSY, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Côte d'Ivoire

Address by His Excellency The Right Honorable Robin COOK, MP, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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Committees

FIRST COMMITTEE

The First Committee will hold informal consultations on Tuesday, 21 September 1999, at 10.30 a.m. in Conference Room 4.

The 2nd meeting of the First Committee will be held on Thursday, 23 September 1999, at 10.30 a.m. in Conference Room 4, to consider the organization of work.

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THIRD COMMITTEE

The Third Committee will hold its 2nd meeting on Tuesday, 21 September 1999, at *3 p.m.* in Conference Room 2, for the purpose of electing its Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur and to consider and approve its organization of work (A/C.3/54/L.1)*.

* To be issued.

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FIFTH COMMITTEE

The Fifth Committee will hold its 2nd meeting on Tuesday, 21 September 1999, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 3, for the purpose of electing its Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur and to consider and approve its organization of work. A note by the Secretariat on the status of preparedness of documentation will shortly be issued in document A/C.5/54/L.1

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The Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the Outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and Further Initiatives will meet in resumed session, subject to the approval of the General Assembly, on Tuesday, 21 September 1999. The meeting will be held in the afternoon, following the adjournment of the 2nd meeting of the Third Committee in Conference Room 2, in order to take action on draft decisions A/AC.253/L.12 and L.13.

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Technical Subgroup of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics will meet, under the chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Percy Metsing Mangoaela (Lesotho), on Wednesday, 22 September 1999, at 10 a.m. sharp in Conference Room E (to be confirmed).

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The Chairman of the Commission for Social Development, Mr. Aurelio Fernández (Spain), will give a briefing on the programme of work of the Commission on Thursday, 7 October 1999, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room 1. All interested delegations are invited to attend.

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

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There will be a meeting of the Group of 77 *(on Fifth Committee matters)* on Monday, 20 September 1999, at 6 p.m. in Conference Room 5.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Member States of the Group of 77 will hold their Twenty-third Annual Ministerial Meeting at Headquarters on Friday, 24 September 1999, at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

The Twenty-third Annual Ministerial Meeting will be preceded by the Eleventh Annual Senior Officials Meeting of the Group of 77 on Wednesday, 22 September 1999, at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

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There will be a meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Non-Aligned Movement with the Group of 77 and China (Joint Coordinating Committee) on Wednesday, 22 September 1999, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 3.

There will be a meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Heads of Delegation of the Non-Aligned Movement on Thursday, 23 September 1999, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 3.

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Special briefings

There will be a briefing for non-governmental organizations by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Mr. Olara A. Otunnu, on his mission to Sierra Leone and Guinea and Security Council resolution 1261, on Tuesday, 21 September 1999, from 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. in Conference Room 6.

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The Regional Representative of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), Mr. Michael Platzer, will brief permanent missions on current efforts to implement the Barbados Plan of Action on Drug Control. The briefing will be held Monday, 27 September 1999, from 1.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. in Conference Room E, and will be followed by a question-and-answer period. Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the media are invited to attend.

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Workshop

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the United Nations University (UNU) are organizing the second session in the UNU/UNITAR Series, entitled "Workshop on International Environmental Law". Session II will be conducted in English on Thursday , 30 September, and on Friday, 1 October 1999, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

A letter on this subject, including an information note and a nomination form, was addressed to all the permanent missions. The registration deadline is Thursday, 23 September 1999. For further information, please contact Ms. Cecilia Coleman (room DC1-603; tel.:(212) 963-9684).

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Wednesday, 15 September 1999

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-fourth session

GENERAL COMMITTEE 1st meeting

Organization of the fifty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/54/1 and Add. 1)

Section I

The General Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the provisions reproduced in annexes V, VI, VII and VIII to its rules of procedure.

The General Committee took note of paragraph 4 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General.

Organization of the session (Section II)

Section II.A

The General Committee took note of rule 40 of the rules of procedure and of the provisions of General Assembly decision 34/401, Assembly resolution 39/88 B, the annex to Assembly resolution 45/45 and the annex to Assembly resolution 51/241 pertaining to the functions of the Committee.

Section II.B

The General Committee took note of paragraphs 6 and 7 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General.

In connection with paragraph 8 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General, the General Committee decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 5 of the annex to its resolution 45/45 and to paragraphs 30, 31 and 36 of the annex to its resolution 51/241.

The General Committee took note of paragraphs 9 and 10 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General.

Section II.C

The General Committee took note that the General Assembly had decided by its resolution 53/239 of 8 June 1999 that the fifty-fourth session would close on Tuesday, 5 September 2000.

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the fifty-fourth session should recess no later than Tuesday, 14 December 1999.

The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the First, Special Political and Decolonization (Fourth Committee) and Sixth Committees complete their work by Friday, 19 November, the Third Committee by Monday, 22 November, the Second Committee by Friday, 26 November, and the Fifth Committee by Friday, 10 December 1999.

Section II.D

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the suggestions contained in paragraphs 12 to 14 and of the memorandum by the Secretary-General, including the recommendation that plenary meetings and meetings of the Main Committees, including informals, be adjourned by 6 p.m. and that no meetings be held on weekends, with the exception of the general debate. The Committee also recommended that this cost-saving measure should apply, for the remainder of 1999, to meetings on the calendar of conferences and meetings. The Committee further recommended that, in order to avoid the late start of meetings, the General Assembly should waive the requirements of the presence of at least one third of the members to declare a plenary meeting open and to permit the debate to proceed and of at least one quarter of the members to declare a meeting of a Main Committee open and permit the debate to proceed. The Committee further recommended that delegations should be reminded of the utmost importance of punctuality in the interest of ensuring an effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations.

Section II.E

The General Committee took note of paragraph 54 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General in which it was indicated, *inter alia*, that the general debate would be held from Monday, 20 September to Saturday, 25 September, and from Wednesday, 29 September to Saturday, 2 October 1999.

The General Committee decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 16 of the annex to its resolution 51/241 indicating a voluntary guideline of up to twenty minutes for each statement in the general debate.

The General Committee endorsed the suggestions concerning the closure of the list of speakers (to close on Wednesday, 22 September 1999, at 6 p.m.).

The General Committee decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 18 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General concerning the prohibition of the expression of congratulations in the General Assembly Hall after a speech had been delivered and the departure through Room GA-200 of speakers after delivering their statements.

Section II.F

The General Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of its decision 34/401 concerning explanations of vote and rights of reply.

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that points of order be limited to five minutes.

The General Committee decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 21 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General concerning the length of statements in debates outside the general debate.

The General Committee decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to rules 72 and 114 of the rules of procedure and paragraph 22 of annex VI thereto concerning length of statements for appropriate action in plenary meetings and the Main Committees.

Section II.G

The General Committee took note of paragraph 22 of the memorandum of the Secretary-General concerning verbatim and summary records.

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that its decision not to reproduce *in extenso* statements made in a Main Committee should be maintained for the fifty-fourth session.

Section II.H

The General Committee was informed that South Africa was the name drawn for the purpose of occupying the first desk on the General Assembly floor and from which the seating order would begin.

Section II.I

The General Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the need for the full implementation of paragraph 17 of its decision 34/401 concerning concluding statements.

Section II.J

The General Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 32 of its decision 34/401, to recommendation 3 (f) of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts, to paragraph 5 of Assembly resolution 48/264, and to paragraphs 1 and 10 of the annex to Assembly resolution 45/45, concerning General Assembly resolutions.

Section II.K

The General Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 28 of its decision 34/401, to paragraph 6 of its resolution 48/264, to paragraph 3 of its resolution 53/208 B and to paragraph 32 of the annex to resolution 51/241, concerning documentation.

Section II.L

The General Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the provisions contained in paragraphs 32 to 36 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General concerning questions related to the programme budget.

Section II.M

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the suggestions contained in paragraphs 37 and 38 concerning observances and commemorative meetings.

Section II.N

The General Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the recommendations referred to in paragraphs 39 and 40 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General concerning special conferences.

Section II.O

With regard to paragraph 41 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General, the Chairman informed the General Committee that item (d) (United Nations Population Fund) should be deleted as it was already cited under item (c). The Committee therefore decided to recommend to the Assembly that it should authorize the meetings of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, and the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

Observations and proposals on the organization of future sessions of the General Assembly (Section III)

The General Committee decided, with regard to opening and closing dates of future regular sessions, to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 17 of the annex to resolution 51/241, and to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 51/241 (document A/52/855), in particular to paragraphs 16 and 17 thereof.

The General Committee was informed that, as a consequence of the provision contained in paragraph 17 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 51/241, the Assembly had taken ad hoc decisions concerning the opening and/or closing dates of its fifty-second, fifty-third, fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth sessions.

In this connection, the General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly to address, during its fifty-fourth session, the question of the opening and closing dates of future regular sessions, with a view to deciding on a formula to determine the opening and closing dates of future regular sessions.

Taking into account the opening date of the regular sessions, the Committee also decided to recommend to the Assembly a review of the question of the mandatory deadline for the submission to the Fifth Committee of all draft resolutions with programme budget implications.

Adoption of the agenda (Section IV)

The General Committee took note of the provisions contained in paragraph 46 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General dealing with the rationalization of the agenda.

In this connection, the General Committee decided to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraphs 23 to 26 of the annex to its resolution 51/241.

Items 1 to 6

The General Committee took note that the General Assembly had already dealt with items 1 to 6 of the draft agenda.

Items 7 to 95

The General Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include these items in the agenda.

Item 96

Statements were made by the representative of Seychelles and Monaco.

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that consideration of this item be deferred to the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly and that it be included in the provisional agenda of that session.

Item 97

Statements were made by the representatives of Thailand and France.

The General Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include this item in the agenda.

Items 98 to 165

The General Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include these items in the agenda.

Item 166

In accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure, the representative of Sweden made a statement.

The General Committee decided to invite the representative of Italy, at his request, to take his place at the Committee's table.

The representative of Italy made a statement.

The representative of Monaco made a statement.

The General Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include this item in the agenda.

Item 167

The General Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include this item.

Item 168

The General Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include this item.

Item 169

The General Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include this item in the agenda.

Item 170

Statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Cuba, China, Iraq and Algeria.

In accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedures, statements were made by the representatives of Sweden and Chile.

The General Committee decided to defer consideration of the inclusion of this item to a later date.

Item 171

In accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure, the representative of Senegal made a statement.

The representative of China made a statement.

2nd meeting

Adoption of the agenda (Section IV) (continued)

Item 171 (continued)

Statements were made by the representatives of Algeria, Monaco, Grenada, Djibouti, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Côte d'Ivoire, Iraq, the Russian Federation, Seychelles, Cyprus, the Congo, France, Tajikistan, Cuba, the United States, Chile, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United Kingdom.

In accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure, statements were made by the representatives of Liberia, Burkina Faso, the Marshall Islands, the Gambia, Swaziland, the Solomon Islands, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Malawi, Honduras and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

The General Committee decided to invite the representatives of Sao Tome and Principe, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal, Chad, Sri Lanka, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Kazakhstan, Suriname, the Sudan, Kuwait, the Syrian Arab Republic, Mongolia, Guatemala, Mexico, Italy, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Brazil, Belize, Belarus, Argentina, Guyana, South Africa, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Spain, Lesotho, Zambia, Saint Lucia, Afghanistan, Dominica, Kenya, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Yemen, Egypt and Pakistan, at their requests, to take their places at the Committee's table.

Statements were made by the representatives of Sao Tome and Principe, Myanmar, Bangladesh, Nepal, Chad, Sri Lanka, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Kazakhstan, Suriname, the Sudan, Kuwait, the

Syrian Arab Republic, Mongolia, Guatemala, Mexico, Italy, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Brazil, Belize, Belarus, Argentina, Guyana, South Africa, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Spain, Lesotho, Zambia, Saint Lucia, Afghanistan, Dominica, Kenya, Tunisia, the United Republic of Tanzania, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Yemen, Egypt and Pakistan.

The General Committee decided not to recommend the inclusion of this item in the agenda.

Item 172

The General Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include this item in the agenda.

Item 173

The General Committee decided to invite the representatives of Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda and Namibia, at their requests, take their places at the Committee's table.

Statements were made by the representatives of Rwanda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda and Namibia.

The General Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include this item in the agenda.

Allocation of items (Section V)

The General Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 4 of its decision 34/401, paragraph 5 of the annex to Assembly resolution 39/88 B, paragraph 6 of the annex to Assembly resolution 45/45, paragraphs 2 and 5 (b) and (d) of annex I to resolution 48/264 as well as paragraph 24 of the annex to resolution 51/241 concerning the allocation and clustering of items.

Item 97

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item on the question of East Timor should be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that bodies and individuals having an interest in the question would be heard in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in conjunction with the consideration of that item in plenary meeting.

Item 163

The representative of Bolivia made a statement.

The General Committee decided to recommend that item 163 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

Item 166

The General Committee decided to recommend that item 166 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

Item 168

The General Committee decided to recommend that item 168 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

Item 169

The General Committee decided to recommend that item 169 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

Item 172

The General Committee decided to recommend that item 172 should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

Item 10

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it hear a brief presentation by the Secretary-General of his annual report on the work of the Organization on Monday, 20 September, as the first item in the morning prior to the opening of the general debate.

Item 12

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly the suggested allocation of various parts of the report of the Economic and Social Council as contained in paragraph 52 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General.

Item 18

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that all the chapters of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and People relating to specific Territories should be referred to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) so that the Assembly might deal in plenary meeting with the question of the implementation of the Declaration as a whole.

Item 52

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) should be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that bodies and individuals having an interest in the question would be heard in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in conjunction with the consideration of the item in plenary meeting .

Item 63

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item on the question of Cyprus should be allocated at an appropriate time during the session.

Item 76

The General Committee decided to recommend that the paragraphs of the annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency dealing with the subject matter of item 76 should be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of that item.

Item 100 (h)

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the plenary meeting to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the operations of the United Nations Population Fund should be held on Wednesday, 27 October 1999 in the morning.

Item 107

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the four plenary meetings devoted to the follow-up of the International Year of Older Persons should be held on Monday and Tuesday, 4 and 5 October 1999.

Item 110

The General Committee decided to recommend that, in connection with item 106 (Advancement of women), the annual report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the operations, management and budget of the United Nations Development Fund for Women should be referred to the Second Committee for consideration under item 102 (Operational activities for development).

Statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation and China.

Also in connection with item 110, the General Committee also decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should also be considered directly in plenary for the sole purpose of taking action on the draft resolution entitled, "Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women", recommended to the Assembly for its adoption by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1999/13 of 28 July 1999, on the understanding that it would not set a precedent.

Item 155 (a)

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that, in light of resolution 53/100 of 8 December 1998, it take note that the one-day plenary meeting to mark the end of the United Nations Decade of International Law should be held on 17 November 1999.

Item 158

The General Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that, in light of resolution 53/104 of 8 December 1998, in which the Assembly decided to endorse the recommendation of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country that its membership be increased by four members, including one each from African, Asian, Latin American and Caribbean and Eastern European States, to be chosen by the President of the General Assembly in accordance with resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, in consultation with the regional groups, and in view of the fact that there remains one appointment to be made from among the Asian states, the item should also be considered directly in plenary meeting.

Item 173

The General Committee decided to recommend that item 173 should be considered directly in plenary.

The General Committee then proceeded to consider the allocation of items proposed in paragraph 62 of document A/BUR/54/1 and in its Add.1.

Plenary items

The General Committee decided to recommend the allocation of items proposed in documents A/BUR/54/1 and Add.1, including sub-item (i) of item 17, items 97, 158, 163, 166, 168 and 169; excluding item 63; and including its recommendations on the commemorative meetings under items 100 (h), 107, 155 (a) and its recommendation on item 110.

First Committee items

The General Committee decided to recommend the allocation of items proposed in document A/BUR/54/1.

Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) items

The General Committee decided to recommend the allocation of items proposed in document A/BUR/54/1, taking into account its decisions on the item entitled "Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India", on item 52 entitled "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)" and on item 97 entitled "Question of East Timor".

Second Committee items

The General Committee decided to recommend the allocation of items proposed in document A/BUR/54/1.

Third Committee items

The General Committee decided to recommend the allocation of items proposed in document A/BUR/54/1.

Fifth Committee items

The General Committee decided to recommend the allocation of items proposed in documents A/BUR/54/1 and Add. 1.

Sixth Committee items

The General Committee decided to recommend the allocation of items proposed in document A/BUR/54/1.

Thursday, 16 September 1999

SECURITY COUNCIL

4046th meeting

Protection of civilians in armed conflict

Report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict (S/1999/957)

The agenda was adopted without objection.

The President, with the consent of the Council, invited the representatives of Belarus, Botswana, Egypt, Finland, India, Iraq, Israel, Japan, Mongolia, Norway, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Slovakia, South Africa, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia and Ukraine, at their request, to participate in the discussion of the item without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

The President drew attention to a letter dated 10 September 1999 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations (S/1999/980), requesting an invitation to participate in the meeting in accordance with the Council's previous practice. In accordance with the provisional rules of procedure and previous practice in that regard, the President, with the consent of the Council, invited the Permanent Observer of Palestine to participate in the debate.

In accordance with the understanding reached in the Council's prior consultations, the President extended an invitation to the Permanent Observer of Switzerland to the United Nations to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote.

In accordance with the understanding reached in the Council's prior consultations, the President extended an invitation under rule 39 of its provisional rules of procedure to Mrs. Sylvie Junod, Head of the Delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross to the United Nations.

The Council began its consideration of the item.

The Secretary-General made a statement.

Pursuant to the request of the Secretary-General, Mrs. Mary Robinson, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, made a statement.

Statements were made by the representatives of Canada, Slovenia, Brazil, the United States and Namibia, by the Deputy Foreign Minister for Humanitarian Affairs of Argentina, and by the representatives of the United Kingdom, France, Malaysia, the Gambia, China, the Russian Federation, Bahrain and Gabon.

The President drew attention to the text of a draft resolution contained in document S/1999/981, which had been prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

The meeting was suspended.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

47th meeting

Official inauguration of the renovated Economic and Social Council Chamber

The President of the Council, H.E. Mr. F. Paolo Fulci (Italy), made a statement.

The President of the General Assembly, H.E. Mr. Theo-Ben Gurirab, made a statement.

Statements were made by H.E. Mr. Leutlwetse Mmualefe (Botswana) (on behalf of the African States), H.E. Mr. Volkan Vural (Turkey) (on behalf of the Asian States), Ms. Lidija Topić, Chargé d'Affaires (Bosnia and Herzegovina) (on behalf of the Eastern European States), M. Genaro Vicente Pappalardo, Chargé d'Affaires (Paraguay) (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States) and H.E. Mr. Thorsteinn Ingolfsson (Iceland) (on behalf of the Western European and other States).

The Secretary of the Economic and Social Council made a statement in which she informed the Council that the next meeting of the Economic and Social Council meeting was postponed for weather reasons and would be convened following the general debate of the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special event

Under the sponsorship of the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh, a special event on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the admission of Bangladesh to the United Nations will be held *today*, 17 September 1999, from 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.

The Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Kofi Annan, will attend the comme-morative meeting. Former and present senior officials of the United Nations will address the event.

Members of permanent missions, Secretariat staff, representatives of non-governmental organizations and the media are invited to attend.

* * *

Security announcements

Briefing

The Security and Safety Service will convene briefing on security arrangements for the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly for the permanent and observer missions *today*, 17 September 1999, at from 9.30 a.m. to 10 a.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

Closure of the garage

For security reasons, the United Nations garage will be closed for parking at 12 noon on Sunday, 19 September 1999, and will reopen for authorized vehicles at 4 a.m. on Monday, 20 September. Remaining vehicles will be towed and stored at the owner's expense. Those who intend to make use of the parking area from 51st to 57th Streets from 6 a.m. Sunday, 19 September, to 6 a.m. on Monday, 20 September, should display their valid United Nations parking decal on the interior dashboard windonw. Further details about arrangements can be found in circular ST/IC/1999/75.

Arrangements for the official party

The permanent and observer missions wishing to discuss security arrangements for the official visit of their Government during the fifty-fourth session of the General Assembly may contact the Security and Safety Service (tel.: (212) 963-9346 or 963-7531). Attention will be given to requests for walk-throughs and it will be possible to schedule an appointment during the weekend of 17 to 19 September.

Grounds passes

Regarding the issuance of United Nations grounds passes, the Pass and Identification Office, located on the ground floor of the UNITAR Building (45th Street and First Avenue), will be open on Saturday and Sunday, 18 and 19 September, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Monday and Tuesday, 20 and 21 September, from 7.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. For extended hours of service please fax requests to the Chief, Security and Safety Service (fax: (212) 963-9541).

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EDITOR

Material for insertion in the *Journal* should be addressed to room S-2940
(extensions: 33888, 36771 and 36776)
(fax number: 963-4790)
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